

*CLAIM AMENDMENTS*

1. (Currently Amended) An elevator system comprising:  
a hoistway including a hoistway wall and a bottom portion, said hoistway wall including a face and a protrusion projecting from said face into the hoistway;  
a vertical moving member ascending and descending within the hoistway along a direction generally parallel to said face and not interfered with by said protrusion, wherein said protrusion is at least one member selected from the group consisting of a landing floor door mechanism and a building structural member disposed within a range of movement of the vertical moving member; and  
a control panel for controlling movement of said vertical moving member, said control panel being disposed within the hoistway on said face, wherein  
an area of said control panel projected along the direction of movement of said vertical moving member overlaps an area produced by projection of said protrusion along the direction of movement of said vertical moving member,  
said face of said hoistway wall includes a plurality of openings arranged along the direction of movement of said vertical moving member for providing access to said vertical moving member,  
said protrusion projects into the hoistway from said face farther than said control panel projects into the hoistway from said face, and  
said control panel is located in the hoistway between two of the openings.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The elevator system as claimed in claim ~~2~~ 1, wherein said protrusion is a landing floor door mechanism, the landing floor door mechanism opens and closes the opening, and said control panel is installed on said face above said landing floor door mechanism.

4-6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously Presented) An elevator system comprising:  
a hoistway including a hoistway wall and a bottom portion, said hoistway wall including a face and a landing floor sill resting within the hoistway and spaced apart from the face;

a vertical moving member ascending and descending within the hoistway along a direction generally parallel to said face and not interfered with by said landing floor sill; and

a control panel for controlling movement of said vertical moving member, said control panel being disposed within the hoistway on said face, wherein an area of said control panel projected along the direction of movement of said vertical moving member overlaps an area produced by projection of said landing floor sill along the direction of movement of said vertical moving member.

8. (Previously Presented) The elevator system as claimed in claim 7, wherein said control panel is positioned above an opening in said face of said hoistway wall for providing access to said vertical moving member.

9. (Previously Presented) The elevator system as claimed in claim 8, including a landing floor door mechanism for opening and closing the opening, wherein said control panel is installed on said face above said landing floor door mechanism.

10. (Previously Presented) The elevator system as claimed in claim 7, wherein said control panel projects into the hoistway from said face at least as far as said landing floor sill, and said control panel is located in the hoistway above a highest position reached by said vertical moving member within the hoistway.

11. (Previously Presented) The elevator system as claimed in claim 10, wherein said control panel projects into the hoistway beyond the landing floor sill.

12. (Previously Presented) The elevator system as claimed in claim 7, wherein said face of said hoistway wall includes a plurality of openings arranged along the direction of movement of said vertical moving member for providing access to said vertical moving member, said landing floor sill resting in the hoistway farther from said face than said control panel projects into the hoistway from said face, and said control panel is located in the hoistway between two of the openings.